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**Civil Engineering**

**NATURAL RESOURCES ON THE USAF  
ACADEMY**



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This instruction implements AFD 32-70, *Environmental Quality*, and Colorado fishing and wildlife statutes, which apply to the USAF Academy's natural resources program. It tells people how to administer the program and the rules that apply to fishing and hunting on Academy land, including Farish Recreation Area. This instruction applies to everyone assigned to or residing on the USAF Academy and those people authorized to fish, hunt, or trap on the Academy or its properties. See [Attachment 1](#) for glossary of terms.

This instruction requires collecting and maintaining information protected by the Privacy Act of 1974 authorized by Title 10, United States Code, Section 8013. (Use AF Form 3545, Incident Report, as required by AFI 31-201, *Security Police Standards and Procedures*). System of Record Notice, F125 AFSPB, Complaint/Incident Report. Units are responsible to comply with AFI 37-138 (Records Disposition, Procedures and Responsibilities) and AFMAN 37-139 (Records Disposition Schedule) for maintaining and disposing of electronic or paper records kept on file.

**SUMMARY OF REVISIONS**

Restructures the content and updates office titles and symbols throughout; expands coverage of instruction to include entire natural resources program; removes requirement for 1-day permits to be used at Farish only (paragraph [2.1.5.](#)); changes annual and 1-day fees (paragraph [2.3.2.2.](#)); deletes requirement for cadets and Prep School cadets to accompany their guest (paragraph [2.4.1.2.](#)); changes daily bag limit ([2.4.5.](#)); adds float tubes (paragraph [2.4.6.2.](#)); adds email address for reporting wildlife (paragraph [3.6.1.](#)); adds camping and open fires (paragraph [7.](#)). A "[ ]" indicates revised material since the last edition.

**1. Administering the Natural Resources Program:**

- 1.1. The Commander, 10th Civil Engineer Group (10 CEG/CC), manages the USAF Academy fishery, wildlife, and forestry programs.

1.2. Natural Resources (510 CES/CEVP) supervises daily operations and, along with Security Forces (10 SFS), enforces the laws governing USAF Academy natural resources.

1.3. The Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) may provide officers to assist in management and enforcement of wildlife and fishing statutes, laws, and regulations on lands and lakes administered by the USAF Academy. (Also see cooperative agreement with CDOW and USFWS.)

1.4. The Commander, 10th Services Squadron (10 SVS/CC), administers the USAF Academy fishing permit stamps.

1.5. 510 CES/CEVP, 10 SFS, Farish Recreation Area (10 SVS/SVMO), CDOW and USFWS:

1.5.1. Check fishing and hunting permits.

1.5.2. Report violators to 510 CES/CEVP Wildlife Law Enforcement.

1.6. USAF Academy anglers and hunters must follow Colorado fishing and hunting statutes, this instruction, and regulatory signs posted.

## **2. Fishing on the USAF Academy:**

**2.1. Who May Fish on the USAF Academy** (Also see AFI 32-7064, *Integrated Natural Resources Management*):

2.1.1. Active duty military, cadets, Preparatory School students, and their guests.

2.1.2. USAF Academy civil service, nonappropriated fund, Army/Air Force Exchange Service personnel (and their family members); military retirees (500) and their family members; and bona fide guests.

2.1.3. Individuals with special authorization from the 10th Air Base Wing Commander (10 ABW/CC) such as military retirees who have 60 to 100 percent disability from the Veterans Administration and their guest.

2.1.4. Visiting and distinguished Visiting Professors assigned to the faculty.

2.1.5. Registered patrons at Farish Recreation Area not authorized to purchase an annual permit may purchase a temporary 1-day permit. The Academy limits these 1-day permits to 4,000 per fiscal year.

2.1.6. All other DoD employees, their family members, bona fide guests, and military retirees may purchase a 1-day permit. The Academy limits these 1-day permits to 2,000 per fiscal year and no more than 300 permits per month.

2.1.7. Military reservists assigned to the USAF Academy and on temporary duty (TDY) orders while performing their duties on the Academy. TDY personnel must have a copy of their orders when they apply for a USAF Academy fishing permit.

**2.2. Who May Not Fish on the USAF Academy.** Private contractors, temporary employees, summer employees, retired civil service employees, School District #20 employees, bank and credit union employees, and other individuals not identified in paragraph [2.1](#).

**2.3. How to Get a USAF Academy Fishing Permit Stamp.** Annual permits for the calendar year go on sale the first week of that year. If you are an eligible person under 16 years of age, you do not

need a USAF Academy fishing permit or a Colorado state fishing license; however, you are entitled to only one-half of the daily bag limit unless you do purchase both licenses. All other eligible people must do the following in order to fish at the USAF Academy:

2.3.1. Possess a valid State of Colorado fishing license.

2.3.2. Possess a USAF Academy fishing permit that can be obtained at the Outdoor Recreation Center (10 ABW/PDSO) or at Farish Recreation Area during normal duty hours.

2.3.2.1. Bring the proper form of identification (active duty, reserve, retired identification card, TDY orders, etc.).

2.3.2.2. Pay \$16 for the annual USAF Academy fishing permit stamp or \$6 for a 1-day permit. One dollar of the permit fee covers the administrative costs of selling permits.

2.3.3. If you are an eligible Veterans Administration/military disabled angler and possess the Colorado State free license, you may obtain a USAF Academy free fishing permit from 510 CES/CEVP, located in building 9030.

#### **2.4. Rules to Follow While Fishing on the USAF Academy:**

2.4.1. Having licenses and sponsors with you:

2.4.1.1. Have on your person a current State of Colorado fishing license with the USAF Academy fishing permit stamp.

2.4.1.2. If you are a family member or guest, your sponsor need not accompany you while fishing, but you must provide sponsorship information if asked by an authorized official.

2.4.2. Areas Not Open for Fishing: Fishing is not allowed in golf course ponds and nonpotable reservoirs #1 and #2.

2.4.3. Observing Daily and Seasonal Restrictions:

2.4.3.1. You may fish day or night, unless the area is otherwise posted.

2.4.3.2. Ice fishing is not allowed on Academy lakes. Ice fishing is allowed at all Farish lakes but not until the lakes are officially opened for ice fishing by the Farish staff. This decision is based on ice thickness to ensure safety for the user.

2.4.4. Taking, Killing, and Baiting Fish:

2.4.4.1. Do not use minnow traps, seines, trotlines, or jugs.

2.4.4.2. You may take crayfish (crawdads) by hand, one baited line, trap, pot, or dip net. However, do not leave any devices overnight or unattended. There is no limit on crawdads.

2.4.4.3. Do not use live fish for bait or release live fish into USAF Academy waters (minnows, sunfish, suckers of any species, etc). Immediately release grass carp back into the water. These fish are stocked to control aquatic vegetation.

2.4.4.4. Do not use corn for angling or chumming.

2.4.4.5. Use only artificial lures with barbless hooks, as defined by state statute, in designated catch-and-release areas. These areas are nonpotable reservoir #4 (Goat Camp Reservoir), nonpotable reservoir #3 (Mesa Lake), and Monument Creek from the Southgate bridge to the south boundary of USAF Academy.

2.4.5. **Limiting Your Catch.** Take only a daily aggregate bag and possession limit of 4 trout, including only one trout 14 inches or over, and 5 channel catfish. This daily bag limit is the maximum number of fish you may take in 1 day regardless of any disposition made of the fish during that day. Look for other special restrictions at any of the lakes or streams, which the USAF Academy may post, as conditions require.

2.4.6. **Conducting Yourself Around and in USAF Academy Waters:**

2.4.6.1. All persons are responsible for properly disposing of trash. Do not clean fish at lakes or streams. A fish cleaning station is available at Farish during the summer months.

2.4.6.2. Do not swim in or use boats, rafts, or other floating devices of any kind on USAF Academy lakes, reservoirs, or streams--with the exception of rental paddleboats (Farish) or float tubes for fishing. Coast Guard approved personal flotation devices are required for paddleboats and float tubes.

2.4.6.3. Park your vehicles only in designated areas.

2.4.6.4. Camping is not allowed at lakes or streams on the Academy.

**3. Hunting, Trapping, and Handling Wildlife on the USAF Academy.** The USAF Academy does not approve of or practice the indiscriminate killing of wildlife. Anyone wishing to take protected nongame, game, and certain individual nuisance or injured wildlife (deer, elk, black bear, mountain lion, bobcat, and coyote) must get specific authorization from 510 CES/CEVP. In turn, 510 CES/CEVP requests special authorization from the CDOW or the US Fish and Wildlife Service to take and dispose of protected game and nongame wildlife.

### **3.1. Hunting Wildlife:**

3.1.1. The 10 ABW/CC approves, in writing, a hunting season on USAF Academy lands.

3.1.2. If you hunt on USAF Academy lands, you must have either the appropriate state or federal license or permit and a USAF Academy permit.

3.1.3. Hunt according to safety requirements, approved wildlife management objectives and plans, and state and federal wildlife laws.

**3.2. How to Get a USAF Academy Hunting Permit.** Information on how to obtain a USAF Academy deer and/or elk hunting permit and a Colorado Division of Wildlife deer and/or elk license is published each spring in the Colorado Division of Wildlife Hunting Season Information Brochure or by phoning Natural Resources at 333-3308. The USAF Academy is designated as state game management unit 512. Farish Recreation Area is in state game management unit 511. Hunting of any species at Farish is prohibited.

**3.3. Trapping Wildlife.** Trapping of wildlife on the USAF Academy is not allowed unless the 510 CES/CEVP has coordinated it with the CDOW and approved it, in writing.

### **3.4. Requirements to Handle or Dispose of Wildlife:**

3.4.1. Organizations that dispose of or handle any wildlife must:

3.4.1.1. Possess the appropriate federal and state permits.

3.4.1.2. Maintain a log that contains dates of activities, species involved, cause of death, person disposing of animal, and method of disposal.

3.4.1.3. Forward a copy of the log to 510 CES/CEVP at the end of each month. 10 SFS forwards reports involving wildlife and other natural resources to 510 CES/CEVP as appropriate.

3.4.2. Some wildlife is salvageable under Colorado law. Individuals desiring to salvage wildlife must obtain a permit from 510 CES/CEVP or the CDOW within 48 hours after the animal is removed from the kill site. USAF Academy employees will not salvage wildlife or parts while on duty time.

**3.5. Handling Injured or Dead Wildlife.** If you are in a vehicle accident that injures or kills larger wildlife (fox or larger), report the accident to the 10 SFS who will in turn report it directly to 510 CES/CEVP during duty hours or leave a message on voice mail at 333-3308.

3.5.1. 10 SFS personnel will accomplish the following:

3.5.1.1. Dispatch injured animal if it is unlikely it will survive. The officer on the scene must decide whether to destroy the animal and select the appropriate method.

3.5.1.2. If wildlife is deemed to have been killed or injured in an illegal manner (i.e., poaching), notify the Academy's Wildlife Law Enforcement Officer or the CDOW District Wildlife Manager immediately. In order to protect evidence, these animals are not to be moved, salvaged or given away, but should be left at the scene of the crime until law enforcement arrives.

3.5.1.3. Move dead animal off the road, away from traffic, if it is causing a traffic hazard.

3.5.1.4. Report dead animals to 510 CES/CEVP (333-3308).

3.5.1.5. Injured wildlife that appear to have a reasonable chance of survival should be given the opportunity to recover on their own in the wild.

3.5.1.6. For injured animals that leave the area, notify 510 CES/CEVP immediately during duty hours or the next workday after duty hours.

3.5.2. 510 CES/CEVP will accomplish the following:

3.5.2.1. Respond to 10 SFS calls on wildlife that may have been injured or killed illegally. Provide 10 SFS an updated on-call phone listing quarterly.

3.5.2.2. Dispatch injured animal if it is unlikely it will survive. The personnel on scene must decide whether to destroy the animal and select the appropriate method or transport to a care facility.

3.5.2.3. Remove dead animals from the roadside and decide where the carcasses are placed. If 510 CES/CEVP is unavailable, 10 CES/CEOHHE responds.

3.5.2.4. Search the vicinity of a vehicle accident involving wildlife to determine if the animal has died or if it survived the accident.

3.5.2.5. Maintain a current log and map of deer and elk vehicle accidents.

3.5.2.6. Issue permits for road-killed big game (deer, elk, and antelope).

### **3.6. Reporting and Controlling Potentially Dangerous/Nuisance Wildlife:**

3.6.1. Report rattlesnakes, black bear, mountain lion, injured deer, or unusual wildlife to 510 CES/CEVP as soon as practical during duty hours. Bear and other wildlife sightings can also

be reported through email to Bear\_Watch or Bear.Watch@usafa.af.mil. 510 CES/CEVP maintains records of the sightings.

3.6.2. The USAF Academy does not destroy wildlife that is not a threat to human safety. If it is deemed a threat, then it is dispatched or captured and relocated away from populated areas or turned over to the CDOW.

3.6.3. Birds, along with their nests, eggs, feathers, and body parts, are protected by federal and state laws and will not be removed without 510 CES/CEVP approval.

### **3.7. Conducting Wildlife Control Projects:**

3.7.1. Conduct these projects only with approval of 510 CES/CEVP and CDOW or with direct supervision of either office.

3.7.2. 510 CES/CEVP notifies 10 SFS of the time, place, and circumstances of the wildlife control projects.

### **3.8. Avoiding Poisons, Feeding, Dumping, and Target Shooting:**

3.8.1. Do not use poisons for wildlife control unless special written permission is obtained from 510 CES/CEVP.

3.8.2. Do not feed any animals or place salt blocks or other attractants for large mammals (deer and elk) and rodents without permission from 510 CES/CEVP.

3.8.3. Do not target shoot on USAF Academy lands.

3.8.4. Do not dump yard waste, household waste, or other refuse on Academy lands.

## **4. Forestry and Range on the USAF Academy :**

4.1. Removal of forest products is prohibited without an approved permit. Forest products include firewood, logs, tree transplants, Christmas trees, boughs, pinecones, and bark.

4.2. Removal of native plant species, including trees, shrubs, forbs, and grasses is prohibited.

4.3. Removal of rocks, soil, cultural resources, archeological resources, and fossils is prohibited.

## **5. Off-road Vehicles (ORV):**

5.1. To minimize impacts on the soils and wildlife, off-road use of vehicles is prohibited on USAF Academy lands unless specifically authorized. Off-road vehicle use is defined as any motorized vehicles traveling off the roadways, on unpaved roads, or any other area where prohibited by signs. Vehicles may travel on the unpaved roads that lead to Ice Lake, Stanley Canyon Trailhead, Deadman's Lake, and Mesa Lake. ORVs include motorized bikes, all-terrain vehicles, and snowmobiles.

5.2. Use of ORVs by government personnel in performance of their duties is authorized. Care will be exercised to prevent damage to soils and vegetation.

## **6. Controlling Domestic Pets:**

6.1. Keep domestic pets (normally dogs and cats) on a leash and under control on all areas of the USAF Academy, including fishing lakes and streams. Do not allow your dogs in the water when waterfowl or anglers are present. Do not ride horses near or in the fishing lakes.

6.2. It is unlawful for any person to knowingly or negligently allow or direct a dog that is under their control to harass wildlife, whether or not the wildlife is actually injured by such dog. (See Colorado State Statute 33-6-128).

6.3. Report pet owners in violation of this instruction to 10 SFS, who act as necessary, to enforce this instruction.

## **| 7. Camping:**

7.1. Camping is authorized only in designated areas at Farish and the FamCamp. Scout groups may use the Scout camping area near the B-52 with prior written permission. For permission, call USAFA/PA Community Relations at 333-7482 or send email to [pa\\_comrel@usafa.af.mil](mailto:pa_comrel@usafa.af.mil).

7.2. The base Fire Chief must approve all open fires.

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**Attachment 1****GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****Abbreviations and Acronyms***

**CDOW**—Colorado Division of Wildlife

**ORV**—Off Road Vehicles

**TDY**—Temporary Duty

**USFWS**—US Fish and Wildlife Service

***Terms***

**Guest**—A visitor who is a guest of an eligible user.

**Family Members (Dependents)—**

A lawful spouse.

Unmarried children under 21 years of age including adopted children, stepchildren, or wards (foster and preadoptive children) who depend on the sponsor for over half of their support.

Unmarried children 21 years of age or over who depend on the sponsor for over half of their support because of mental or physical handicaps.

Unmarried children who have not passed their 23d birthday and are enrolled in a full-time course of study at an approved institute of learning.

Parents, including father, mother, stepparent by adoption, and parents-in-law who depend on the sponsor for over half of their support.

**Annual Fishing Permit** - A permit allowing fishing during one calendar year. (The fishing season runs from 1 January to 31 December each year. The USAF Academy issues a total of 2,500 annual permits, of which 500 are for military retirees on a first-come, first-served basis.)

**1-Day Fishing Permit**—A permit allowing fishing on the day stated on the permit.

**Fish and Wildlife Violations and Penalties—**

Fishing without an Air Force Academy Permit - \$50.00

Pursuant to Title 10, United States Code, Section 2671(c)

Hunting without an Air Force Academy Permit -

Big game - \$250.00

Other - \$50.00

Pursuant to Title 10, United States Code, Section 2671(c)

Trespassing onto Air Force Academy lands for the purpose of hunting and/or fishing without an Air Force Academy Permit - \$50.00

Pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 1382